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as will give the world repose. There will, in the mean time, be a great shock given to the commercial interests on both sides the Atlantic, and all the hazard to the union of the states which may be expected from a sudden mutation of the capital of the country, but the knowledge of their true interests, and the supremacy of public opinion will overcome the great difficulties of their present situation. It was political courage that induced their executive to declare war, but it must be personal resolution, and military energy in every direction, that can put an honourable end to it.

The capture of Moscow will terminate the campaign in the North of Europe. The premeditated conflagration of that great capital is an event of modern barbarism, that equals, if not exceeds, any in ancient times, and casts a baleful light on the moral history of mankind. It seems to have made a strong impression on the Russians, when their general makes use of the expression, "that the entrance of the French into Moscow is *not yet* the annihilation of the empire;" which leads to the conclusion, that the loss of that city, deemed sacred and impregnable, is considered as nearly decisive of the fate of Russia. Yet certainly it appears, that the situation of the French is extremely critical, unless they be able to sustain a perfect line of communication with their resources during the winter; and Napoleon, placed in the Kremlin of Moscow, (that boss upon a battered shield,) appears insulated in the midst of an ocean-people. If the whole mass of that people be animated with the fire of enthusiasm, this would be a conflagration more to be dreaded by the French Emperor, than the flames of Moscow. It is probable, that religious bigotry will instigate to assassination, when

it cannot succeed by legitimate means, and the barbarism of the incendiary has already announced that many French officers had been "*killed privately*" in Moscow, and some of great distinction, being mistaken for Bonaparte. Such is the complication of crimes, which war never fails to introduce.

It is extremely probable, that Napoleon has proposed terms of peace. The salvation of Russia depends on her being able to protract the war: and for this purpose she will have the best assistance of Britain. Whatever Napoleon's views may be in lengthening out the war in the Peninsula, he certainly can desire nothing so much as a speedy submission on the part of Alexander. If this submission be not made: if the elements impede the march of the French to Petersburg: if the whole population of Russia be trained to a system of Parthian warfare, never hazarding a battle, and incessant in desultory attacks, the success of Napoleon, depending so much on rapidity of execution, may, like the first success of Charles the XII. be terminated by defeat, or by retreat equivalent to discomfiture. The fate of two of the greatest Empires on the globe will be decided in the course of a few months; and the fortune of the war in the Peninsula depends upon the event.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We thank a Correspondent for sending to us the following Letter.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

IN the last number of the Magazine, a copy of the Synod's minute relating to Mr. Adams and the congregation of Clare, is inserted, and

a correct account of the proceedings of the Synod's Committee, appointed to settle all matters in dispute between Mr. Adams and his congregation is requested.

The following may be depended on as a true account of this business. I have it from a person who was present, on whose word I can rely.

The committee met at the time and place appointed, and chose Mr. Paterson Moderator. After prayer, that part of the Synod's minute from which the committee held its authority was read, and they immediately entered on business. Mr. Adams' opponents being asked, what they had to prefer against their minister, replied, that they had a variety of charges to bring forward. On being called on for a copy of those charges, they said, they had not a fair copy to produce, but that Mr. Adams had been served with a copy, and, no doubt, could now produce it to the committee. The committee observed to Mr. Adams, that he was not obliged to show the paper, and left it optional with him to do so or not. Mr. Adams, by no means desiring that he should seem to evade a trial, handed the paper to the committee, on condition that he might have it, when he called for it. The paper contained twelve or thirteen charges, with the names of the persons who were to prove them, annexed. Some of the charges had been previously exhibited before the Presbytery of Armagh, and had been disposed of by them; and could not, of course, be taken up again. And one charge was insidiously brought under a different form; so that Mr. Adams' opponents might not miss gaining an advantage, in which they had before failed, in consequence of an erroneous statement in the charge, viz., substituting one day of the week for another. It is the more

necessary to observe this charge, as it affected Mr. Adams' moral character.

The witness in this case was a Methodist, who gave evidence in a very unembarrassed and flippant manner, who seemed to be convinced of the solidity of the charge, and wished to make the same impression on the committee. But the evidence adduced, fell altogether short of proving the charge, and left Mr. Adams' character perfectly fair and unblemished. Indeed, the Presbytery of Armagh had before examined into this matter; though the affair did not come before them in a legal form, as they were anxious to discover the truth, in a matter of such importance. And they found, as did the committee afterwards, from unquestionable evidence, that Mr. Adams was a man perfectly temperate and correct in his deportment. The words of the Presbytery respecting this matter, were,—“This charge against Mr. Adams, the Presbytery consider a most foul and malicious calumny.”

Of all the charges, the committee judged that only two were proved; viz,—the one of his having neglected to comply with a form prescribed by the Synod in celebrating a marriage; and the other, of his having neglected to visit a sick person.

After the trial was closed, and the judgment of the committee delivered, Mr. Moore addressed both the parties in a very able manner; and exhorted them, in very impressive terms, to be reconciled to one another. Mr. Adams had done nothing which should, in justice or propriety, induce them to withdraw from him their confidence or support; and both the society at Clare, and the credit of Presbyterianism would suffer essentially by any farther opposition or persecution on their part. The parties seemed gra-

tified with the address, and the business of the day was concluded.

But the opponents of Mr. Adams appear to have derived no real benefit from the admonitions of Mr. Moore. They have since persisted in their former opposition; shutting up the meeting-house, and doing every thing in their power to obstruct Mr. Adams in the discharge of ministerial duties. The committee still retain the congregation under their care; and will, it is hoped, be ultimately able to restore peace, good order, and discipline among them.

I have very lately heard, that the party have employed a mob of persons brought from a distance, and altogether unknown at Clare, to attend every Sunday, to block up the porches of the meeting-house, and thus defeat every effort of Mr. Adams.

Surely Mr. Adams should not hesitate to adopt the most vigorous measures, and should prosecute, at law, any person or persons who might oppose him in going into, and out from the meeting house; and the more especially, if any violence be offered to his person.

What a ferment is this, among persons professing the peaceful and benign religion of Jesus; because their minister expressed a wish, that four millions of persons, who, notwithstanding the most unequivocal proofs of true loyalty, yet groan un-

der the pressure of penal statutes, should be permitted to enjoy the blessings of a free government!—Pause, Christian, and wonder whether thy religion is gone, when such enormities are sanctioned by men who profess to be zealous to support its interests and its name!

ANTI-CATHOLIC PETITION IN THE CO. OF ARMAGH.

A Petition, in opposition to the claims of the Catholics, is now pressing forward in the County of Armagh, but, we understand, as yet, with little success. A letter from a correspondent at Lurgan, dated 18th inst., states, "This day week, after sermon, the curate of this town stepped up to the communion-table, and informed the congregation, that a counter-petition to the late petition of Protestants in favour of Catholic emancipation, had lain for a considerable time at the post-master's, and had only received a very few signatures; and in a speech, which some called an animated, pathetic, and feelingly warm one, told them, they were imperiously called on, as Protestants, and as *heirs, and joint-heirs of the most glorious constitution*, to sign this petition, as they valued their own interests, and the interests of their fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and relatives. This scene was acted in a church, and immediately after what ought to be their solemn service!"

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

ANTRIM CATHOLIC MEETING.

On Monday, Oct. 19th, pursuant to public notice, a numerous and respectable Meeting of the Catholics of the County of Antrim was held in the New Chapel, Donegall-street, by adjournment from the Exchange-Rooms. The Meeting was attend-

ed by a number of respectable Protestants, of various religious denominations.

Edward McGildowney, Esq. of Ballycastle, being called to the chair,

J. McGuckin, Esq. rose to move the following Resolutions, and spoke as follows:

"Sir—Before I shall propose any Reso-